entiating Central Government Public Sector Undertakings and State Government Public Sector Undertakings with regard to purchase preference as a result of which the consideration permitted for Central PSUs are no more available for State Government PSUs;

(b) if so, the justification for such discrimination between Central Government PSUs and State Government PSUs;

(c) whether there is any proposal to reconsider this lopsided policy and extend the purchase preference to State Government PSUs also; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) The policy of price preference enjoyed by the public sector had been carefully reviewed by Govenrment and a circular was issued making purchase preference admissible to Central Public Sector Enterprises for a limited period of three years upto January 1995.

(b) As Central Public Sector Enterprises are under the control of Central Government, the circular covered only Central Government Public Sector Enterprises.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not aries.

Foreign investment during the Eighth Plan period

6995. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the total financial outlay in the foreign investment proposals during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the total actual flow of foreign investments during the period;

(c) the number of new industrial projects based on foreign investment which came on stream during the period; and

(d) the number of new industrial projects based on foreign investment for which ground was created during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Since April, 1992 till March, 1994, approvals have been accorded to 1526 proposals envisaging foreign direct investment of Rs. 13079 crores.

(b) The total actual inflow of foreign direct investment from 1992 till March, 1994, is estimated at Rs. 3055.13 crores.

(c) and (d) Data in regard to such industrial projects are not centrally maintained in the Ministry.

Curtailment of financial power of National Renewal Fund

6996. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the effectiveness of the National Renewal Fund Scheme is likely to be affected as the Financial Power of the fund has been curtailed;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the other measures proposed to revive the ailing industries in the private and public sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Detailed guidelines have been issued by RBI regarding formulation/ implementation of rehabilitation packages in respect of sick/weak units considered potentially viable for their revival. For this purpose banks carry out viability studies in respect of sick/weak units and identify viable & non-viable units. Rehabilitation package, inter-alia, provides for funding of existing dues of banks and financial institutions with extended period for repayment thereof in a phased manner, interest concessions, grant of fresh term loans as also fresh

working capitas facilities. As regards non-SSI sick industrial companies, Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), a quasi-judicial body set up under the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provisions) Act, 1985 has been adequately empowered to take necessary action for determination of preventive, ameliorative, remedial and other measures and expeditious enforcement of such measures.

Gas exploration by MNCs cleared by FIPB

6997. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Foreign Investment promotion Board has allowed some American Multinational Companies to undertake gas exploration in the Eastern Coalfields Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. M/s. Modi Meckenzie Methane Ltd., New Delhi has been allowed to set up a Joint Venture with M/s. Meckenzie India Inc. USA to undertake exploration and development of Coal bed Methan Gas in the Eastern Coal Field involving foreign direct investment.

राष्ट्रीय नवीकरण कोष का उपयोग

6968. **श्री राम जेठमलानी :**
श्री वीरेन जे० शाह :

क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राष्ट्रीय नवीकरण कोष को श्रमिकों के कल्याण के लिए किस तरह उपयोग किया जाना था ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि इस कोष से कुछ धनराशि 1992–93 और 1993–94 के दौरान श्रम-संरक्षण हेतु खर्च की गयी थी ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो उक्त वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक वर्ष में इस प्रकार से खर्च की गयी धनराशि का ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(घ) उक्त वर्षों के दौरान प्रत्येक वर्ष में सेवानिवृत्ति संबंधी भुगतानों, सेवानिवृत्त श्रमिकों के पुनर्वास और अतिरिक्त रोजगार के अवसर पैदा करने पर खर्च की गयी धनराशि का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती कृष्णा साही) : (क) भारतीय उद्योग के प्रौद्योगिकीय उत्थान और आधुनिकीकरण से प्रभावित श्रमिकों को सामाजिक सुरक्षा प्रदान करने हेतु राष्ट्रीय नवीकरण निधि की स्थापना सरकार द्वारा फरवरी 1992 में की गई थी । अन्य बातों के अलावा यह निधि युक्तिकृत श्रमिकों को मुआवजे का भुगतान करने और उन्हें परामर्श तथा पुनः प्रशिक्षण देने के वास्ते धन उपलब्ध कराएगी ।

(ख) से (घ) सर्वप्रथम राष्ट्रीय नवीकरण निधि से केन्द्र सरकार के उपक्रमों को स्वैच्छिक सेवा निवृत्ति योजनाएं लागू करने हेतु सहायता दी गई थी । केन्द्र सरकार के विभिन्न उपक्रमों में स्वैच्छिक सेवा निवृत्ति योजना लागू करने के लिए संबंधित प्रशासनिक मंत्रालयों/विभागों द्वारा दी गयी राशि 1992–93 में 650.34 करोड़ रु० तथा 1993–94 में 548.67 करोड़ रु० (अनंतिम) थी । इसमें वस्त्र क्षेत्र के केन्द्र सरकारी उपक्रमों की अपेक्षित अंतरिम नकदी आवश्यकता भी शामिल है ।